

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 15-70 are pending. Claims 1, 5, 6, 41, 49, 51, 54, 60, 61, and 69 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for various reasons as identified in the Office Action. For the reasons which follow, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection in view of the claims as amended.

Claims 1, 41, 49, and 69 have been amended as to matters of form to place the claims in proper Markush format. Claims 5 and 6, and 60 and 61 have been amended to render the claims more definite by deleting the word "about". The misspelling in claim 32 has also been corrected. A question was raised with respect to claims 51 and 54 with respect to the phrase "derived from" as to whether the claim called for actual platelets or platelet derivative. In response, the claims call for actual platelet particles, wherein the source of those platelet particles are derived from at least one layered silicate material. Applicants believe the claims are clear on their face, and cannot be expressed in another format which is more clear than currently recited. Accordingly, these claims have not been amended, but rather are herein explained in response to the Examiner's question regarding the meaning of the phrase "platelet particles derived from...."

Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of claims 19-29, and to further expedite prosecution, Claim 19 is amended to further recite the nature of the oxygen scavenging system. For this reason, Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 19-29.

Applicants have filed herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate the obviousness type double patenting rejection over co-pending application 09/630,518. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions related to the prosecution of this application.

Eastman Chemical Company
P.O. Box 511
Kingsport, Tennessee 37662
Phone: (423) 229-6189
FAX: (423) 229-1239

Respectfully submitted,



Dennis V. Carmen
Registration No. 35,007



July 15, 2003

Date